


About the Program


The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program was established by Congress in 1994 to increase access to vaccination for children who might not get vaccinated because of financial barriers. The VFC program is a Title XIX Medicaid program. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention uses federal funds to purchase vaccines and distribute them at no cost to enrolled public health clinics and provider locations.

The VFC program aims to support providers who administer vaccines to underserved and at-risk populations. Ensuring that all children and adolescents are vaccinated in accordance with the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended schedule is the best way to protect individuals and communities against vaccine-preventable diseases.



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Vaccines for Children

**INFORMATION FOR
HEALTH CARE
PROVIDERS**



Patient Eligibility

Patients eligible to receive VFC vaccines are children (0-18 years old) who are:

✓ Medicaid Eligible

Medicaid eligible or enrolled in a Medicaid program (NJ FamilyCare Plan A only)

✓ Uninsured

Patients who have no insurance

✓ Underinsured

Patients whose insurance does not cover some or all vaccines. Underinsured patients can receive VFC vaccine at Federally Qualified Health Centers.

✓ American Indian or Alaskan Native



Benefits of VFC Program

- Reduces providers' out-of-pocket costs
- Allows providers to charge an administrative fee to offset the costs of doing business
- Keeps patients in medical home for comprehensive health care
- Provides ACIP-recommended vaccines
- Helps providers avoid missed opportunities for immunizations

Program Best Practices



Screen for VFC eligibility at each visit



Do not charge for VFC-supplied vaccines



Comply with the ACIP-recommended Immunization schedules



Maintain records of all children immunized with VFC vaccine in the New Jersey Immunization Information System



Provide vaccine information statement materials and records of distribution



Comply with NJ VFC ordering accountability and quality assurance requirements